THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir, with effect from 1.1.2000.

(b) Competition between the coal companies, imports and Ministry of Coal representatives on Coal Company Boards are expected to safeguard consumer interests. The situation should improve further in future with the enactment of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, which seeks to allow any Indian Company to do coal mining without restrictions of captive consumption.

(c) The State Governments levy 'Sales Tax' on coal. Wherever such sales tax is computed on the price of coal, any increase in price of coal would lead to increased sales tax revenue to the State Government concerned. Similarly, increase in the price of coal leads to increase in the cess levied by the Government of West Bengal.

Development of Buddhists in Laddakh

†3211. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have received any representation from the elected Member of Parliament of Laddakh for the development of Buddhists residing there and for their greater participation in the administration; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleged deportation of Canadian National from India

3212. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from some Members of Parliament in June, 2001 regarding alleged deportation of Canadian National from India; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes Sir, Shri Gurucharan Singh Tohra, Hon'ble MP took up a case of Shri Gurjit Singh Dhaliwal a Canadian citizen who was sent back from Indira Gandhi International Airport on 21.2.2001.

(b) Shri Gurjit Singh Dhaliwal came to India on 21.2.2001 by Singapore Airlines flight No. SQ 408 with one year tourist visa issued by Consulate General of India, Houston. Shri Gurjit Singh Dhaliwal was a subject of Prior Reference Category (PRC) of Home Ministry with effect from 24.3.1999 due to adverse report against him. Our Immigration authorities do not allow entry of PRC subjects into India without prior approval of Home Ministry. Therefore, he was not allowed entry into India when he landed at Indira Gandhi International Airport without obtaining the prior approval of the concerned authorities and was deported back. His case is under review in consultation with Intelligence agencies.

Place for National song in terms of protocol procedure

3213. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the place given to Vande Mataram as the National song in terms of protocol procedure;

(b) whether there is any prescribed tune for it;

(c) if so, who composed the tune; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal to prescribe a tune for the song?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Vande Mataram is honoured equally with Jana Gana Mana and has equal status with it.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no proposal to prescribe a tune for the song.

Verification of the antecedents of employees of private security agencies

3214. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: